

REMARKS

The Office Action of April 30, 2004, and the cited art have been carefully considered. The recognition of allowable subject matter in claims 11, 14, 15, and 18 is gratefully acknowledged. The application has been amended to eliminate unnecessary limitations and to correct grammatical and similar errors. Reconsideration of the rejection of the application is respectfully requested based on the amendments and following discussion.

Claims 8 - 19 remain in the application.

REJECTION 103:

1. Claims 8-10, 12, 13, 16, 17, and 19 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over Paire FR 2,628,823.

Paire shows an LED based lamp capsule mounted in a reflector. The reflector as shown is typical of most reflectors. It has an optical radius to depth ratio equal to about 1. The important feature of Paire seems to be that the deflector 10 is transparent. Some of the impinging light is then transmitted, and some is reflected to the side. See FIG. 3, items R1, and R3. By setting the angle between the surfaces 11a and 11b the deflector /transmitter 10 spreads the transmitted beam R3. The subject matter appears to be concerned with beams spreading the deflector 10.

There is no suggestion that the reflector should be substantially flatter or thinner by making the radius large and the depth small.

The Office Action states, *"Since the applicant has not disclosed that the ratio of the optical radius and the optical depth being greater than 2 solves any problem or is for a particular reason, it appears that the claimed invention would perform equally well with the reflector having [a] ratio of the optical radius and the optical depth being greater than 2. "*

The Examiner's attention is drawn to:

page 1, paragraph 3, stating, *"In automotive applications, however, the general reluctance of the automobile manufacturer to cut holes in the vehicle hull to support a lamp assembly is often a formidable obstacle to allowing flexibility in designing suitable LED lamp assemblies that meet these objectives."*

page 1, paragraph 7, stating, *"It is still another object of the present invention to provide an LED light source with an interchangeable lens optic for automotive*

applications where the light is well spread and the assembly remains sufficiently thin to be mounted without forming holes in the vehicle hull." and

page 6, paragraph 16, stating, "The resulting assembly is simple and inexpensive to assemble without sacrificing performance. A short, flat optical package is created utilizing one or more standard LED bulbs. The assembly is sufficiently "thin" to allow a dented type mounting to be used."

The depth of a dent that can be conveniently formed in the metal hull of a vehicle is rather shallow. A ratio of radius to depth of about 2 might be possible, but generally a greater ratio is required. Here the Applicant is proposing that the lamp be fitted in such a vehicle dent. Contrary to what is stated in the Office Action, the Applicant does present a problem and its solution. The factor of 2 or greater is important and is not disclosed by Paire. There is no indication that Paire is aware of the problem, nor is there any suggestion in Paire that a flat, or thin lamp structure should be used.

With reference to Kondo US 6,558,032, the Applicant's invention occurred prior to the US filing date of that patent.

Withdrawal of the rejection, and reconsideration of claim 8 and all the claims dependent therefrom is respectfully requested.

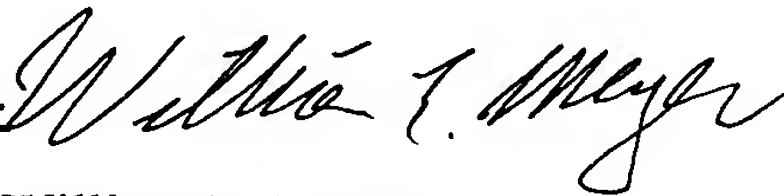
BASE CLAIM REJECTION

2. Dependent claims 11, 14, 15, and 18 were objected to as being dependent from rejected base claim 8, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including all limitations of the base claim 10, and any intervening claims.

Claim 11, 14, 15, and 18 have been rewritten in independent form to include all limitations of the base claim 8, and any intervening claims.

It is believed that a full and complete response to the Office Action has been made, that the Application as amended is patentably distinct over the cited art, and that the case is now in condition to be passed to issue. Reconsideration of the amended application is therefore requested, and an early favorable notice of allowance is courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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